Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Drainage channel for surface drainage defining a channel compartment and comprising

an elongate molded body defining an upper surface over which vehicles can travel and which itself defines inlet openings that open into said channel compartment, side walls, a floor, and end faces adapted for connection to additional drainage installations such that the channel compartment is defined by a ceiling boundary surface nearest said upper surface, side boundary surfaces and a base boundary surface said ceiling boundary surface being parallel to said upper surface and at least one side boundary surface and ~~at least one of said~~ the base boundary surface ~~and said ceiling boundary surface~~ defining a conical tapering of said channel compartment in a direction from one of said end faces to said other end face.

2. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 1, wherein said inlet openings taper conically from said upper surface to said channel compartment.

3. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 1, wherein said inlet openings at least on their marginal side are defined by edges that extend substantially linearly in a long direction of the channel.

4. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 1, wherein said side walls define lateral inlet openings, which open into the inlet openings on a marginal side.

5. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 4, wherein said lateral inlet openings taper toward said channel compartment.

6. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 1, wherein sealing junctions are provided at said end faces that are adapted to be filled with a sealing material.

7. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 6, wherein said end faces define end-face inlet openings that open into said end faces.

8. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 7, wherein said end-face inlet openings are constructed ~~so~~ such that by means of which said sealing junctions are accessible for at least one of entry by an injection tool for the injection of said sealing material and for observing this procedure.

9. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 1, wherein said ceiling boundary surface is provided with at least one of a reinforcing material and a filter fabric.

10. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 1, wherein said upper surface comprises elevated sections at its edge.

11. (Previously Presented) Drainage channel according to Claim 10, wherein said elevated sections comprise continuous marginal strips outside said inlet openings.

12. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for manufacturing a drainage channel, comprising

a molding box defining at least a floor and side walls;

at least one core adapted to be pulled out of said molding box and adapted to form a channel compartment that defines a cross section which tapers conically along its long direction and which is defined by a planar bottom surface that extends parallel to said floor, and

a set of long cores adapted to form inlet openings and to taper conically as they extend from said floor to said at least one core.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein said set of cores is fixedly attached to said floor.

15. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein at least two of said set of long cores comprise in their interior movable press-out rods, which can be moved so that after the drainage channel has partially hardened, said press-out rods can be used to lift it away from said set of long cores.